



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
www.ladpw.org

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **EP-2**

June 19, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2756

Dear Supervisors:

**ATHENS-WOODCREST-OLIVITA, BELVEDERE, FIRESTONE, MALIBU,
MESA HEIGHTS, AND WALNUT PARK GARBAGE DISPOSAL DISTRICTS
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 1, 2, AND 3
4 VOTES**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Authorize the Director of Public Works to refund the 2002-03 Fiscal Year Garbage Collection and Disposal Service Fees to those property owners in the above-referenced Garbage Disposal Districts who a) utilized dumpster services during the entire fiscal year, and b) unless otherwise extended by the Director of Public Works, under special circumstances on a case-by-case basis, submit a refund application to the Director of Public Works not later than December 31, 2003.
2. The amount of the refund is estimated at \$366,000, \$575,000, \$315,000, \$64,000, \$78,000, and \$47,000 for Athens-Woodcrest-Olivita, Belvedere, Firestone, Malibu, Mesa Heights, and Walnut Park Districts, respectively.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

In July 2002, your Board authorized Public Works to refund the 2001-02 Service Fees to those customers in the above-referenced Districts who utilized dumpster services in lieu of trash receptacles serviced by the contract waste haulers during the entire Fiscal Year. The proposed recommendation provides for continuation of the Service Fees Refund Program for Fiscal Year 2002-03.

Currently, with the exception of the Belvedere District where automated collection services are provided, all other Districts' contracts provide property owners with weekly (twice a week for Malibu District) refuse collection from 45-gallon cans in unlimited quantities. The existing contracts for Fiscal Year 2002-03 do not include any provision for collection of refuse placed in dumpsters except in the Belvedere District where limited dumpster services may be provided at the request of the property owners. The dumpster service is generally utilized by property owners of condominiums, multiple residential, and/or commercial establishments. These property owners are charged an annual Garbage Collection and Disposal Service Fee by the Districts in addition to the fees they pay to private haulers for dumpster services. To address this inequity, we recommend that the Service Fees Refund Program for all six Districts be continued for Fiscal Year 2002-03.

As a follow-up to the Auditor-Controller's fiscal review of the six Districts in 1999, your Board approved the reduction of the reserves and fund balances in Athens-Woodcrest-Olivita, Malibu, and Mesa Heights Districts by providing a credit of the Service Fee to each eligible parcel of property in said Districts in an amount equivalent to the annual Service Fee assessed on the 2000-01, 2001-02, and 2002-03 Joint Consolidated Annual Tax Bill, except Mesa Heights District where said credit was discontinued in Fiscal Year 2002-03. As a result, those parcels of property in the Athens and Malibu Districts which received credit of the Service Fee on their 2002-03 Tax Bill will not be eligible for the dumpster refund as indicated above.

Upon your Board's approval, all identified property owners in the Districts who utilized private dumpster services will be notified by U.S. Mail of the 2002-03 refund of the Service Fees.

Implementation of County Strategic Plan Goals

This action is consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goal of Fiscal Responsibility. As proposed, the Districts' Service Fee will be refunded only to those qualified property owners in each District who elected not to receive any refuse, recyclable material, and green waste collection services provided by the Districts for the entire Fiscal Year 2002-03.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The number of parcels which utilize dumpster services in each of the six Districts has been identified as follows.

<u>District</u>	<u>Estimated Number of Parcels Utilizing Dumpster Services</u>
Athens	600
Belvedere	1,550
Firestone	890
Malibu	210
Mesa Heights	230
Walnut Park	150

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

Sufficient funds are available in each District to provide for the refund program.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

County Counsel concurs with the above recommendation.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended Board action will have no impact on the quality of the Districts' regular and special services being provided to all residential, commercial, and business customers.

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CONCLUSION

It is requested that two approved copies of this letter be returned to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES
Director of Public Works

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cc: Auditor Controller
County Counsel
Chief Administrative Office